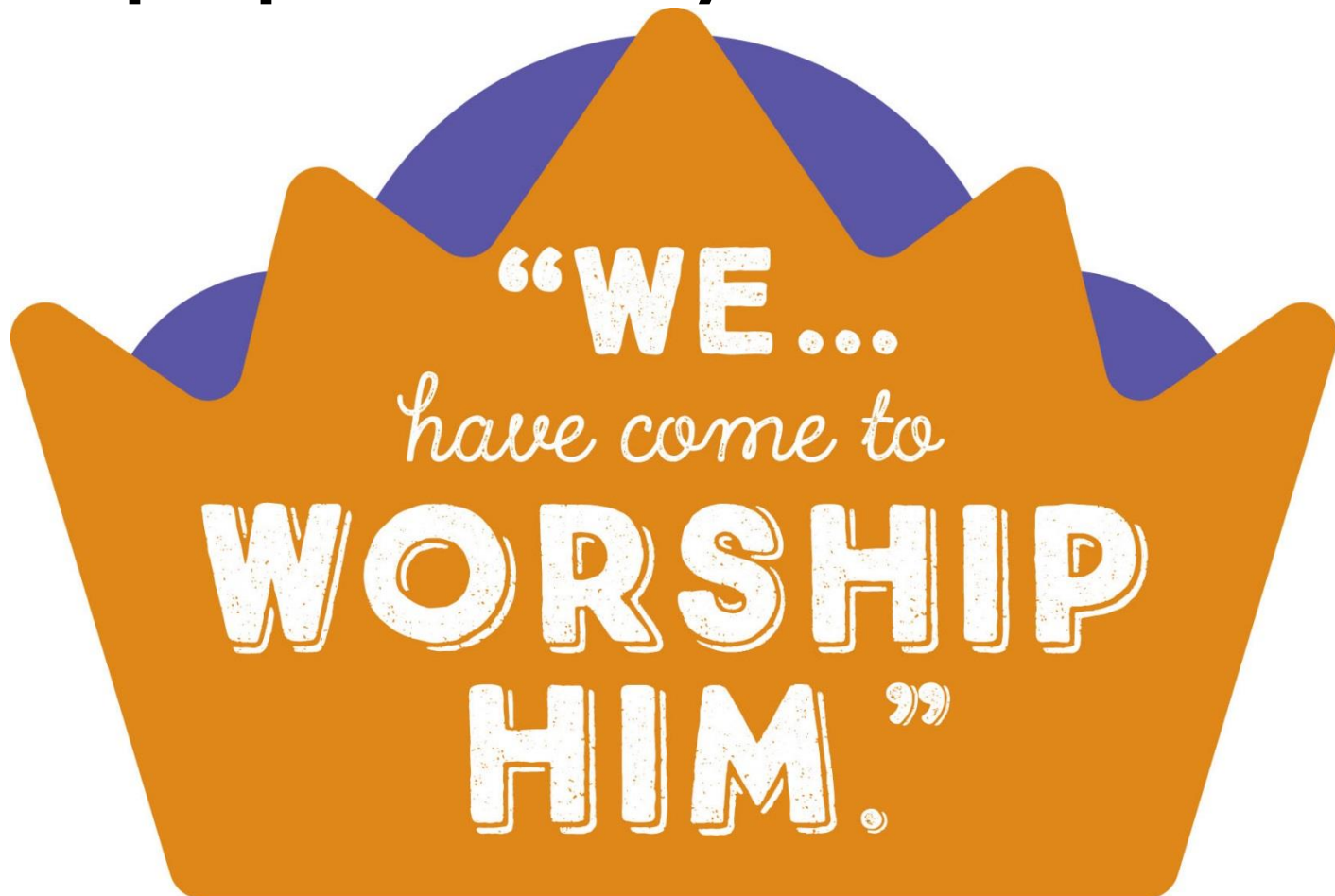


# Opequon Presbyterian Church



MATTHEW 2:2

**WELCOME!** This historic church began worship on these grounds in 1732 and was organized in 1736. We are dedicated to “prayerfully equipping disciples of all generations to be Christ’s hands, heart and feet in the world.” We are strengthened today by your presence whether guest or member. Go forth, blest and renewed because you were here this day!

## INFORMATION FOR OUR GUESTS

To get the most out of your visit, may we recommend you familiarize yourself with the following:

- **We encourage you to share requests for prayer.** You may do so by completing the pink form found in the pew rack and placing it in the offering.
- **Trust your children to the care of our dedicated, loving workers!** The nursery rooms are located through the Gathering Area, down the Gallery and through the Dell Room. An usher will be happy to escort you. Our nursery ministry cares for infants and toddlers to age three.
- **Worship Bags are available for children ages 3-kindergarten.** These bags, located in the back of the Sanctuary. Please return the bag and supplies to the bin when you are leaving.
- **Look forward to taking part in a Sunday School class each week.** Sunday School is held at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday. There are classes for all ages and interests.
- **Restrooms and a coat rack** are located off the Gathering Area, just outside the Sanctuary.
- **A water fountain** is located off the Gathering Area.
- **Large-print hymnals, Bibles and bulletins** are available from an usher.
- **Personal hearing assistance devices** are available from an usher if you would like to use one.
- **Transportation can be provided to worship.** Call the church office, 540-662-1843, before 12:30 p.m. on Friday.

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217 Opequon Church Lane, Winchester, VA 22602, 540-662-1843, [www.opequonchurch.org](http://www.opequonchurch.org)  
WIFI: Network ID: opc-guest Password: 25dec!!!

David R. Witt----- Pastor  
William Heavner ----- Organist  
Susan Homan ----- Director of Music  
Carole Witt ----- Director of Christian Education  
Laurie Carver ----- Nursery Supervisor  
Patty Klinefelter ----- Faith Community Nurse  
Catherine Richard ----- Office Administrator  
Robert Sydnor ----- Sexton



# SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 1, 2017  
8:30 and 11:00 a.m.  
Second Sunday of Christmastide

## WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

PRELUDE ..... *Time for New Beginnings*

Please use this time to prepare your inward spirit for the worship of God.

Please complete the Friendship Folder and pass it along during the greeting.

PRAYER REQUEST forms are inside the pew holders – please place in offering plate.

†All who are able, please stand.

**Bold print—all respond.**

THE CHURCH BELL RINGS  
GREETINGS AND WELCOME

†ENTRANCE OF THE WORD AND THE LIGHT

†GATHERING SONG NO. 744 (vv. 1, 4) ..... *Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**The brightness of God's light shines upon all the nations. All are welcomed to the brightness of God's dawn.**

God gathers us from far away and carries us. With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts, we receive the abundance God gives.

**We respond in praise. With our gifts, with our very selves, we worship God.**

†HYMN OF PRAISE NO. 150 ..... *As with Gladness Men of Old*

(Please be seated for prayer)

CALL TO CONFESSION

The Gospel of John tells us the basis for our judgment is this: "The light came into the world, and people loved darkness more than the light, for their actions are evil." We confess our sins to God, to whom we have access through faith in Christ. We come in boldness and confidence, not according to our merit, but according to God's grace.

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of justice, we confess that our actions are evil whenever we remain passive while others are oppressed; whenever we guard our own prosperity at the expense of those who are poor; or when we ignore the cries of those in need of help. Forgive us, we pray, for hiding in the darkness of this world more than loving the light of your righteousness made known to us in Jesus Christ. Judge us with mercy, we pray, and extend your grace to us. Strengthen our faithfulness to you and to all who are precious in your sight.**

## MOMENTS OF SILENT PRAYER

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Friends, God is for us and not against us. For that very reason God sent the Son into the world— not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

### LITANY OF PARDON

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel  
**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!**

† THE RESPONSE OF PRAISE NO. 121 (v. 3)..... *O Little Town of Bethlehem*  
**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.**  
**We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us; abide with us; our Lord Emmanuel!**

† PASSING OF THE PEACE (Please share this prayer with those next to you)

“May the peace of Christ be with you.”

“**And also with you.**”

## WE HEAR GOD’S WORD

SPECIAL MUSIC..... *Christmas Offering*  
David R. Witt

### THE READING OF GOD’S WORD:

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 60:1-6 .....Pew Bible p. 602

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 2:1-12 .....Pew Bible p. 783

A SPECIAL TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN..... “A New Year!”

Nursery (Ages Infant – Age 3)

†HYMN NO. 119 .....*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

SERMON.....“Celebrating the Journey”  
Pastor David R. Witt

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD**

### **COVENANT RENEWAL SERVICE**

**Creator and Creating God,**

**You make all things new in heaven and on earth. We come to you in a new year with new desires and old fears, new decisions and old controversies, new dreams and old weaknesses.**

**Because you are our God of hope, we know that you create all the possibilities of the future.**

**Because you are our God of love, we know that you accept all the mistakes of the past.**

**Because you are our God of faith, we enter your gates with thanksgiving and praise.**

**As we come to enter anew into covenant with you, remove any reluctance of falsehood in us. May all that we say, all that we sing, all that we think, and all that we do, bring glory unto you. Hear us, O God, as we affirm outwardly with voice and inwardly with heart our commitment to you:**

**I am no longer my own, but yours.**

**Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will;**

**put me to doing, put me to suffering;**

**let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,**

**exalted for you, or brought low for you;**

**let me be full, let me be empty,**

**let me have all things, let me have nothing:**

**I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal.**

**And now, glorious and blessed God,**

**Father, Son and Holy Spirit,**

**you are mine and I am yours. So be it.**

**And the covenant now made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven.  
Amen.**

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

OFFERTORY ..... *Joy at Christmas*

† CAROL NO. 133 (v. 3) ..... *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

**Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**

**O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

God is with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us open our hearts.

**We open them up to our God.**

Let us give thanks to the God of Light.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise...**

The Lord's Prayer

(Hymnal p. 35, we say "debts" and "debtors" in the prayer)

Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread & Cup

Christmas Carol No. 145 ..... *What Child Is This*

147 ..... *The First Nowell*

151 ..... *We Three Kings of Orient Are*

Communion Prayer

**WE GO OUT IN GOD'S NAME**

† HYMN OF DEDICATION NO. 146 ..... *Gentle Mary Laid Her Child*

† CHARGE AND BLESSING

† CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE NO. 136 (Refrain)

..... *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

**Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

† POSTLUDE

### **SERVANTS IN MINISTRY**

Acolyte: Sydney Burton  
Beadle: Bill Burslem  
Bell Ringer: Mo Mohler  
Greeter: Paula & Mac McNichols  
Hospitality: Heide Mohler  
Liturgist: Jim Youngblood  
Name Tags: Pat deButts  
Ushers: Cheyenne & Sydney Burton, Vicki Crites,  
Dulcie Reed, Graham Taylor

### **ORDINATION, INSTALLATION, & COMMISSIONING**

Elders - Mitch Orndorff, Robin Owens, Susanna Shade, Leslie Tucker

Deacons - Dom Cafaro & Brenda Hawkins

Trustee - George Schember

Sunday, January 8, 2017

Join us as we celebrate the joy of serving Christ!

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

January 1-8, 2017

## TODAY

10:00 am: Worship, Covenant Renewal Service, Communion, CCAP  
Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter

## THIS WEEK

Monday: Church Office Closed—Happy New Year!  
Winchester Area Temporary Thermal Shelter Ends  
WATTS Clean-up Begins!—7:00 am

Tuesday: Tech & Communications Team—5:15 pm—Bageant Room  
Ministry Team Night—6:00 pm—Bageant Room

Wednesday: Staff Meeting—9:30 am—David's Office  
Lunch Bunch—11:30 am—TVOR  
LOGOS—4:30 pm—Theme: "Birthday Night!"  
Choir Party—6:00 pm—McNichols' Home

Thursday: Pastors' Meet & Eat—12:00 Noon—Roma

Friday-

Saturday: Confirmation Retreat—Witts' Home

Saturday: Officer Training/Continuing Education—9:00 am  
—Bageant Room  
WATTS Lead Volunteer Training—9:00 am—Fellowship Hall

## **NEXT SUNDAY—Baptism of the Lord Sunday**

Worship—8:30 & 11:00 am

Sunday School for All Ages—9:45 am

Isaiah 42:1-9, Matthew 3:13-17

Sermon: "Responding to Your Claim"

Ordination, Installation, and Commissioning

of Elders, Deacons, and Trustee, Reception in Honor of Church Officers

Youth Council—4:00 pm—Bageant Room

Presbyterian Youth Connection Pizza & Movie Night

—5:00 pm—Fellowship Hall



## **PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

Bob Weidele  
Gracyn Sharples  
Terry Hartman  
Robert Walker  
Hazel Spriggs  
The Wilhelm Family  
Mike Fries  
Dick Widell  
Cody Monday  
Sally Nelson  
Karen Cord  
Ben Weber  
Lori Jones  
Lauren Armstrong  
Beth Drummonds  
Debbie Buckley  
Nancy Simmons  
Melissa Ambers

Paula McNichols  
Fire Victims  
Gary Dove  
Mollie Guthrie  
Gene Fish  
Elmora Golightly  
Jay Journell  
Patricia & Ray Ferguson  
Janet Thompson  
Sarah Bauwer  
Myrt Nissen  
Connie Robinson  
Donna Coffman  
Rebekah Witt  
Berlin Zirk  
Ethiopia Unrest  
Dorothy Rogers  
Stephanie Fitch

Phyllis Dilley  
Gary Snapp  
Sandi Pulizzi  
Lanette Orduna  
Mettu, Ethiopia  
Donna Klinefelter  
Colleen McMurdo  
Jane Lewis  
Frank Vardeman  
Dottie Edwards  
Larry Matthews  
Doug Koch  
Illubabor Bethel Synod of  
Church Mekane Yesus  
People Looking for Work &  
Challenged by the Economy

## **PRAY FOR THOSE IN THE MILITARY SERVICE**

Taylor McMurdo, Brandon Michael, Greg Sousa, Scott Sydnor, Michael White, and their families.

## **COMMUNION TODAY**

The bread and wine/juice are passed in the pews, and the congregation holds the elements until everyone has been served, partaking together. The wine is dark red; the grape juice is white. Gluten-free bread is available; please see an usher for assistance. Those serving communion today are: Carroll Youngblood, Dottie Edwards, Bill Robinson, Becky Proctor, Dom Cafaro and Robin Owens.

## **ATTENDANCE:**

Christmas Eve 5:00 pm—151      7:30 pm—195      11:00 pm—60  
Christmas Day 10:00 am—77

## **CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED**

The church office is closed tomorrow and will reopen on Tuesday, January 3<sup>rd</sup>, at 8:30 am.

## **PYC NEWS**

We will be back in the swing of things with a youth event on Sunday, January 8, 2017. That evening will be “MOVIE and PIZZA NIGHT.” Come enjoy a feature presentation along with pizza, popcorn, candy, and drinks. Please bring \$2 for dinner.

## **WORM SUNDAY MORNING WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN**

Sunday morning workshops for preschool-5<sup>th</sup> grade will begin again on Sunday, January 8, 2017. The workshop that morning will celebrate the ARRIVAL OF THE WISE MEN! Workshops are held at 9:45 am, offering children interactive, hands-on experiences as they explore lessons of faith. All children are welcome.

## **THESE DAYS DEVOTIONALS**

The January-March issue of These Days, daily devotions, is available in the Gathering area. This issue features devotions focusing on “The Wonderful Ways of God,” “Moving Mountains,” and “Looking to See, Listening to Hear.” Pick up a copy while the supply lasts.

## **KIDS' CORNER**

A few items remain in the big bin at the KIDS CORNER (located by the elevator). Kids are invited to pick up any item they may have missed while the supply lasts. Help yourself. Hope you had a very meaningful Christmas.

## **MANY THANKS TO THE CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TEAM**

Thank you to the Christian Education Team for their time in packing the food bags this week for Orchard View Elementary School which will be delivered on Thursday. Our outreach to the school in providing 55 food bags for children's backpacks on the first Friday of each month is greatly appreciated.

## **CONFIRMATION RETREAT**

The confirmation students and their leaders will be sharing in a retreat experience next Friday-Saturday at the home of the Witts'. This retreat experience allows time for the students to explore faith and share in games and activities that are not possible during class time. The retreat is typically a highlight of the student's confirmation year. We pray for the students and leaders as they share this time together.

## **YOUNG FAMILY/YOUNG ADULT GATHERING**

Sara and Mike Birchenough will host a Young Family/Young Adult gathering on Saturday, January 14, at 5:00 pm at their home (1945 Kathy Court, Winchester). Come out for dinner and conversation; bring a covered dish to share. Meat and drinks will be provided. Bring the kids too! Contact Mike, 540-535-5329 or [wvubirch@yahoo.com](mailto:wvubirch@yahoo.com) with questions.